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From: McClain-Vanderpool, Lisa
Sent: Sat 8/8/2015 9:02:03 PM
Subject: messages

8/8/15 Update:

● The first two days after the mine rupture, the plume was moving at approximately 4 miles per hour. As of Aug 8, the plume has reached the confluence of the San Juan River.

● Sampling data of the Animas River from Aug 5th and 6th shows pH and metals concentrations are decreasing to previous conditions. A rain event occurred last night. We continue to monitor river conditions at multiple locations to detect trends. Current sampling data is showing that Cement Creek and upper portions of the Animas River are returning to pre-event conditions.

● Although pH (acidity) levels and dissolved metals increased in the surface water at locations impacted by the contaminant plume, the data from Aug. 5th and 6th in the upstream locations the resident time of the plume in any one location was not long lasting. The trend downstream is expected to be similar or better than upstream. So, any impact to wildlife, agricultural stock or pets is not significant.

The water in Cement Creek and the Animas River in Silverton is no longer orange, and is clearing. The adit is still discharging approximately 500 gallons per minute and the trend is that flow is decreasing. The discharge is being diverted into the newly constructed ponds and treated before it enters Cement Creek. The treatment appears to be effective.

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